

AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION:

On page 1, after the title section, please add the following:

CROSS-REFERENCE TO PENDING APPLICATIONS

This application is based on PCT Patent Application No. NO2004/000380, filed on December 10, 2004, which was based on Norwegian Patent Application No. 20035508, filed on December 11, 2003.

Please replace Page 1, lines 11-18 with the following:

From the recovery of petroleum, among other things, it is known to use power tongs for making up and breaking out pipe lengths into or from a pipe string in connection with a drilling rig. It is common to use mechanized pipe tongs, which are moved, after a pipe connection has been screwed or unscrewed, essentially horizontally away from the pipe string, the pipe string being at the drilling ~~centre~~ center of the drilling rig.

Please replace Page 3, lines 1-7 with the following:

A power tong according to the invention is provided with a non-divided drive ring encircling the vertical central axis of the drilling ~~centre~~ center and pipe string. The drive ring has been given a relatively large internal diameter in order for, for example, a drilling tool of a considerably larger external diameter than the pipe string to be moved through the power tong.

Please replace Page 3, lines 24-28 with the following:

Most preferably, the power tong is formed by an upper assembly tong in an assembly with an underlying back-up tong. The assembly is connected by means of vertical guide columns to a

horizontally movable chassis to allow the assembly to be moved away from the drilling ~~centre~~
center.

Please replace page 4, lines 25-30 with the following:

Relative to the prior art, the time that it takes to make up and break out pipes can be reduced, as the time for moving the power tong to and from the drilling ~~centre~~center will no longer be needed. The relatively simple construction of the power tong entails improved reliability and lower maintenance expenses.

Please replace page 5, lines 22-27 with the following:

In the drawings the reference numeral 1 identifies an assembly of a power tong 2 and a back-up tong 4 located on a drilling rig 6, coaxially to the drilling ~~centre~~center 8 of the drilling rig 6. The assembly 1 is connected, vertically movable, to two diametrically opposite guide columns 10 relative to the drilling ~~centre~~center 8.

Please replace page 6, lines 13-14 with the following:

The drive ring 30 is rotated about the drilling ~~centre~~center 8 by means of two hydraulic motors 34.

Please replace page 6, lines 18-20 with the following:

Each jaw group 36 is typically provided with three hydraulically movable jaws 38 distributed about the well ~~centre~~center 8.

Please replace page 7, lines 15-18 with the following:

The jaws 38 are moved towards the pipe length 22 by means of pressurized fluid, thereby gripping their respective pipe portions as the hydraulic motors 34 rotate the drive ring 30 and the jaw groups 36 about the drilling centre center 8.

Please replace page 8, lines 15-24 with the following:

During the break-out operation, in which the back-up tong 4 clamps the lower sleeve portion of the connecting point 58 and the power tong 2 clamps the upper sleeve portion of the connecting point 58, the guide columns 10 absorb the torque that arises between the tongs 2, 4. It is advantageous that the guide columns 10 are positioned on diametrically opposite sides of the well centre center 8 in order to absorb the torque in the best possible way.

When the pipe length 22 is unscrewed from the pipe string 20, the assembly 1 may be removed from the drilling centre center 8.